PIC/D-3?-?8
17 November 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to the DCI for
                 Planning and Development

SUBJECT: Comments Regarding Status of Minicard
                  Development

REFERENCE: Memorandum from the Acting AD/CR to the DCI
                  and SA/PD/DCI, dated 14 November 1958,
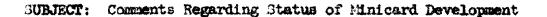   Subject: Visit from [   ] Eastman   25X1
                  Kodak Co. (EKCo)

    1. Although we essentially concur in the statements made by [   ]   25X1
[   ] there are a number of points which we would like to clarify   25X1
so that you may be better posted as to our current estimates of the
capabilities of the Minicard equipment to be used at PIC.

    2. Ref. para 2: It is indicated that we have participated in
the USAF tests. We were invited to have two people attend the daily
check-outs of equipment, but no actual participation occurred. The
USAF application of the system for document handling was observed only
in a very cursory fashion.

    3. Ref. Para 2: It is not completely clear that only OCR is not
"at all convinced that all of the original specifications will be met..."
We sincerely feel that these specifications will be met in due course.

    4. Ref. Para 3: We would propose that the first sentence be
reworded as follows: "In the light of the above, neither OCR nor PIC
is presently in a position to accept MINICARD as more than a tool to be
used ("in research" - omitted) on mass-data-handling problems."

    5. Ref. Para 3: With regard to the question of expansion of
present contracts, we feel that, according to the reference, the door
would be closed a little more than necessary. We have already discussed
with [   ] some minor expansion of Minicard to   25X1
accommodate the requirements posed by Project 'C' materials. Adequate
lead-time must be considered -- it is too late to start to plan for
complex equipment after the material is on hand. PIC has included a
large amount in its FY 1960 Budget for Minicard equipment expansion.
Obviously we would not contract to purchase this additional gear until
presently acquired items perform satisfactorily.

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6. To the best of our knowledge, Minicard is the best data handling system for aerial photography currently available. Our future goals may cause us to shift to another data handling medium, but we cannot overlook our present-day needs.

ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL
Director,
Photographic Intelligence Center

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